

Appl. No. 09/886,014
~~Amdt. dated October 29, 2004~~
Reply to Office action of June 3, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0020], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0020] One embodiment of the present invention will now be described with reference to the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a partially cut-away perspective view of a system according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is an illustration of a collection of data pages forming part of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 3 illustrates an overview main page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 4 illustrates a Bolts main page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 5 illustrates a Hex Bolts-UNC Grade 2 page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 6 illustrates a Carriage Bolt: Plated Steel page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 7 illustrates a Carriage Bolt: Hot Dipped Galvanized page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 8 illustrates a Wood Screws main page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 9 illustrates an Anchors: Hollow Wall page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 10 illustrates a frame of a video demonstration included in the system of Figure 1;

Figure 11 illustrates a Hollow Wall Anchor page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 12 illustrates a Hard-To-Find Fasteners - A page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 13 illustrates a Knurled Head Nuts page of the system of Figure 1;

Figure 14 illustrates a Knurled Head Screws page of the system of 1;

Figure 15 illustrates a Hard-To-Find Fasteners - B page of the system of Figure 1; and

Figure 16 illustrates a method according to the present invention-;

Figure 17 illustrates an alternative Knurled Head Screws page; and

Figure 18 is a block diagram showing a computer for accessing fastener pages located remotely from a retail location.

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Please replace paragraph [0025], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0025] Reference is next made to Figure 2, which illustrates a collection of data pages 200 that are recorded on a storage medium installed in computer 104. In the preferred embodiment of system ~~20100~~, data pages 200 are HTML format pages suitable for use with any conventional World Wide Web browser, such as the well known Microsoft Internet Explorer (a trademark of Microsoft Corporation) or Netscape Navigator (a trademark of Netscape Communications Corporation) browsers. In an alternative embodiment of system ~~20100~~, data pages ~~20200~~ may be in another graphical formation (i.e. JPEG and/or AVI files, etc.) and may be displayed for viewing by the user using any suitable software.

Please replace paragraph [0031], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0031] The usage and structure of some exemplary data pages 200 will now be explained. If a user selects Fastener Type icon 260 on overview main page 202 by touching Fastener Type icon 260, a Bolts main page 204 (Figure 4) is displayed on touch screen 110. Bolts main page 204 has a home button 280 and shows a number of different types of Bolt icons ~~282~~ 272. The user may select home button 280 to return to overview main page 202 on this or any other page 200.

Please replace paragraph [0032], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0032] The user may select any of the Bolt icons ~~282~~ 272 to see a detail page describing the selected type of bolt. For example, the user may select a Hex Bolt icon ~~284~~ 274. Referring to Figure 2, data pages 200 includes a number of different pages 286 which relate to Hex Bolts including a Hex Bolts-UNC Grade 2 page 206 (Figure 5), a Hex Bolts-UNF Grade 5 page 208 and a Hex Bolts-Brass page 210. When a user selects Hex Bolts icon ~~284~~ 274, Hex Bolts UNC Grade 2 page 206 is displayed on touch

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screen 110. Hex Bolts UNC Grade 2 page 206 is shown in Figure 5. Hex Bolts UNC Grade 2 page 206 has a back button 278, a home button 280, a usage information section 282, a location/package information section 284, and a plurality of Hex Bolt Type buttons corresponding to different pages 286.

Please replace paragraph [0036], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0036] Referring to the present example, location/package information section 284 indicates that UNC grade 2 hex bolts are sold in Section B of the store in yellow bins and that they are packaged in individual units 285 and in boxes 287. Hex Bolt Type buttons 286 corresponding to different pages allow the user to select a page for a different type of hex bolt. When a particular type of hex bolt is selected by the user by touching the appropriate part of touch screen 110 an information page for the selected type of hex bolt will be displayed. For example if the user selects the UNF Grade 5 button 294 a Hex bolt-UNF Grade 5 page 208 (Figure 2) will be displayed. Similarly if the user selects the Hex Bolt-Brass button 296 then a Hex Bolt-Brass page 210 (Figure 2) will be displayed.

Please replace paragraph [0037], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0037] This example illustrates how a user may traverse a series of pages 200 to find specific information about a selected type of fastener. In this case, to find detailed information about brass hex bolts, starting from overview main page 202 the user must go to Bolt Main Page 204 then to Hex Bolts UNC Grade 2 main page 206 from which he may select Hex Bolts-Brass page 210. When the user initially selects a class of fasteners (i.e. hex bolts), a selected initial detail page describing one member of that class of fasteners (i.e. UNC grade 2 hex bolts) is displayed. Other detail pages for other members of the class (i.e. brass hex bolts) may be displayed by selecting a control on the initial detail page. The initial detail page will generally be chosen to be one that describes the most common member in a class of fasteners.

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Please replace paragraph [0038], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0038] From Bolts main page 204, the user may select Carriage Bolt Icon 300. This will cause a Carriage Bolt: Plated Steel page 212 (Figure 6) to be displayed on touch screen 110. Carriage Bolt: Plated Steel page 212 has a usage information section 282 and a location/packaging information section 284 similar to those of Hex bolt: UNC Grade 2 page 206 (Figure 5). Further, a link 283 may be provided on page 212 for checking the current availability of the selected fastener type by displaying real-time availability information. Link 283 is also shown on pages 216 (Figure 7), 250 (Figure 13) and 252 (Figure 14). From Carriage Bolts: Plated Steel page 212 the user may display detail pages relating to other types of carriage bolts by selecting one of the Carriage Bolt Buttons 302. Referring also to Figure 2, the user may display any of Carriage Bolt: Stainless Steel page 214 (Figure 2), Carriage Bolt: Hot Dipped Galvanized page 216 (Figures 2 and 7), or Carriage Bolt: Duradized page 218 (Figure 2) by selecting the appropriate Carriage Bolt Button 302.

Please replace paragraph [0046], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0046] Reference is again made to Figure 2. Some of the general categories of fasteners shown in Figure 2 may contain too many types of fasteners to show on a single page. If the user selects Hard-To-Find Fasteners icon 268, a Hard-To-Find Fasteners - A page 246 (Figure 12) is displayed on touch screen 110. Hard-To-Find Fasteners - A page 246 includes a plurality of icons 322 representing various types of fasteners and additionally has a Part 'B' button 248. If the user selects one of the icons 322, an associated fastener detail page will be displayed. For example, the user may select Knurled Head Nuts icon 330 to display a Knurled Head Nuts page 250 (Figure 13) or Knurled Head Screws icon 332 to display a Knurled Head Screws page 252 (Figure 14). Figure 17 shows an alternative Knurled Head Screws page 252 with multiple location information sections 284 corresponding to the location of the fastener in multiple retail locations.

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Please replace paragraph [0048], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0048] System 20 100 allows a retailer of fasteners to provide a simple to use and efficient method for allowing retail consumers to determine which fastener the user requires, how to properly use that fastener, where it is displayed in the retailer's establishment and how it is packaged. The system therefore allows a retail consumer who is unfamiliar with fastener products or with a particular retail outlet to select an appropriate fastener and to be able to locate it readily for self-serve shopping, thereby reducing or eliminating the need for consumers to consult with the retailer's staff.

Please replace paragraph [0051], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0051] Method 400 next proceeds to step 404, in which retailer 500 packages each group of fasteners 504a, 504b, 504c, ... and organizes the packages of fasteners on the display shelves, racks and bins, etc. of ~~his~~the retail establishment 501. In this step, retailer 500 also marks the specific or general location at which each group of fastener is located in the store in an identifiable way. This may be done, for example, by dividing the retail establishment into sections and dividing each section into colour zones. Within each colour zones, the bins in which fasteners are stored will have the same colour and/or the labels on packages of fasteners may ~~will~~ have a section with the same colour (i.e. a coloured dot on the label). Alternatively, this may be done by numbering each aisle in the establishment and then dividing each aisle into sections.

Please replace paragraph [0053], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0053] Method 400 next proceeds to step 406 in which retailer 500 configures a system 506 (which is similar to system 20 100 described above, except for the content of its pages 200) to have selection pages which allow the consumer 502 to select the different groups of fasteners 504a, 504b, 504c, ... and to have detail pages which describe the usage, location and packaging of each group of fasteners.

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Please replace paragraph [0064], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0064] In some cases a retailer will obtain all or most of the fastener products stocked in his establishment from a single fastener supplier. In one embodiment of the invention, the retailer and the fastener supplier may cooperate to provide system 20 such that fastener supplier 20 provides the usage information on detail pages and the retailer provides the location information. Both the fastener supplier and the retailer may provide packaging information. Such a system is helpful to both the retailer and the fastener supplier to increase the sales of their products.

~~Making these and other embodiments of the present invention will be within the competence of the person skilled in the art and fall within the spirit and scope of the present invention, which is limited only by the following claims.~~

Please add the following new paragraphs after paragraph [0064]:

[0065] Referring to Figure 18, there is shown a computer for accessing a collection of pages 200 describing various types of fasteners and navigating through the collection of pages. The computer location is remote from a retail establishment 501 and the accessing and navigating is performed remotely from the retail establishment 501.

[0066] Making these and other embodiments of the present invention will be within the competence of the person skilled in the art and fall within the spirit and scope of the present invention, which is limited only by the following claims.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: